

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 7, 1997

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(202) 994-6467

UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR SEYYED HOSSEIN NASR WINS AWARD FOR BEST COURSE IN AMERICA IN SCIENCE AND RELIGION

Dr. Nasr receives \$10,000 from Templeton Foundation

Washington -- University Professor at The George Washington University Dr. Seyyed Hossein Nasr has won the Templeton Award for the best course in America in science and religion. The University will use half of the \$10,000 award to improve support materials for the class.

Nasr's award-winning course, Religion and Science, explores the interaction between the two fields in the major Eastern and Western cultures, from ancient Egypt to the present day. "It is one of the few courses," said Nasr, "which takes the matrix for discussion nationally and globally." According to Nasr, some of the course content will evolve to consider such current topics as cloning and the Pope's declaration of the theory of evolution, but the historical issues will remain unchanged.

"We are extremely proud that the Templeton Foundation has recognized Dr. Nasr's course," said GW President Stephen Joel Trachtenberg. "He is among the leading Islamic scholars at work today and we are honored to have him as a member of our faculty."

Nasr, who also teaches courses in Islamic studies, perennial philosophy and man's interaction with the natural environment, has published more than 20 books and 200 articles. Most recently, he edited two volumes of "The History of Islamic Philosophy" with Oliver Lemen and wrote "Religion and The Order of Nature." His works and thoughts are featured in a volume of the "Library of Living Philosophers."

Fluent in English, Persian, Arabic and French, Nasr was born and educated in Iran. He continued his education in the United States, receiving a Ph.D. from Harvard University. Returning to his native country, he taught science and philosophy for 21 years at Tehran University. Nasr played a major role in establishing the Iranian Academy of Philosophy and was one of the organizers of the first international conference on Muslim education, held in Mecca in 1977. Nasr left Iran in 1979 and has been teaching since then in the United States.

Before coming to GW as a University Professor of Islamic Studies in 1984, he taught at Temple, Harvard and Princeton universities and had a distinguished academic career in his native country of Iran. He has delivered the Gifford and Cadbury Lectures in the United Kingdom and more recently at Westminster College the 1997 Tanner-McMurrin Lecture on "Religion Truth and Multiplicity of Religion" and at Georgetown University the Second Annual Diana Tamari Sabbagh Distinguished Lecture on "Problems and Challenges for Islamic/Christian Dialogue Today."

Sir John Marks Templeton, who was knighted in 1987 by Queen Elizabeth for his philanthropic efforts, founded that same year the John Templeton Foundation to explore spiritual and moral progress through the use of scientific methods. The Foundation works

closely with scientists, theologians, medical professionals, philosophers and scholars. Since its inception, the Foundation has more than doubled the number of programs it supports, providing critical resources to the growing community of leaders striving for spiritual and scientific progress. The Foundation now funds more than 40 projects, studies, award programs and publications around the world.

The Templeton Foundation believes a path of cooperation between the sciences and all religions will lead humanity to a deeper understanding of the universe; the unlimited creative spirit behind it and our place in it. The Science and Religion Course program is one of the Foundation's international spiritual information through science programs which awards colleges, universities and schools of theology prizes of \$10,000 -- \$5,000 to the instructor and \$5,000 to the institution -- for developing and teaching interdisciplinary courses in science and religion.

For more information, please contact Audra Garling in GW's Office of Public Affairs at (202) 994-6467.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 8, 1997

MEDIA CONTACT: Audra Garling
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**FIRST ANNUAL LURA BRADFIELD FOUNDATION LECTURE AND AWARDS
CEREMONY TO BE HELD AT GW OCT. 28**

**Two GW freshmen to receive Lura Bradfield Foundation, Inc. Scholarship Award
established to support education of women and programs to help abused women**

EVENT: The First Annual Lura Bradfield Foundation Lecture and Awards Presentation features Elizabeth Shrader, Inter-American Development Bank's regional coordinator for its family violence program. Trustees of The Lura Bradfield Foundation, Inc., will present GW freshmen Naomi Hartman and Anna Stojanovic with the first annual Lura Bradfield Foundation Scholarships.

WHEN: Tuesday, October 28, 1997
7-9 p.m.

WHERE: The George Washington University
Marvin Center Colonial Commons, 2nd Floor
800 21st Street, NW

Background:

Born in Liberty, Mo., Lura Bradfield moved to Washington, D.C., at the age of seven. She graduated from Ross Elementary in 1917 and Central High in 1923. She attended The George Washington University, American University and the Department of Agriculture Graduate School. In 1928, Bradfield married and moved to New York. When her marriage ended in divorce in 1936, she returned to Washington. She had no children.

An abused child and woman, Lura Bradfield planned, at the age of 90, to have her estate used for educating women and for strengthening programs that help abused women. The Lura Bradfield Foundation, Inc., was established at the time of her death and is managed by Norma Opgrand and Lawrence Bell, trustees of the Foundation. Beginning this year, the Foundation will award approximately \$100,000 annually in scholarships and grants to women who demonstrate financial need and to other institutions that provide assistance to women who have been abused.

Two GW students, Naomi Hartman and Anna Stojanovic, have been awarded the first annual scholarships from The Lura Bradfield Foundation. Each student will receive \$12,500 annually over the course of their undergraduate careers, provided the eligibility requirements of the scholarship are maintained. The Lura Bradfield Foundation, Inc. scholarship and grant criteria include a demonstrated financial need; a "B" average for two years prior to receiving the scholarship; a written report documenting use of the funds submitted to the trustees annually; and an annual presentation to a public forum detailing

the use of the funds.

Elizabeth Shrader, who has a global understanding of violence against women, oversees the Inter-American Development Bank's six-country family violence program which emphasizes treatment and prevention. Shrader attended Yale University where she received her bachelor's degree in Latin American Studies. She holds also a master's degree in Public Health.

For more information, please contact Audra Garling in GW's Office of Public Affairs at (202) 994-6467.

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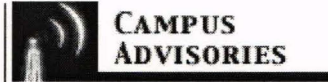
This two-day symposium is open to media coverage. For further information, contact Mike Freedman, Audra Garling or Bob Ludwig in the GW Office of Public Affairs at (202) 994-6460.

The Complete Agenda Follows.

Commission on Presidential Debates Symposium "Planning for the Year 2000: A Review of the 1996 Debates" The George Washington University October 20-21, 1997

Monday, October 20, 1997

GW News Center
Office of University Relations



February 7, 2005

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MEDIA CONTACT: GW CONTACT: Mike Freedman
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**COMMISSION ON PRESIDENTIAL DEBATES TO BEGIN PLANNING FOR
YEAR 2000 DURING GW SYMPOSIUM OCTOBER 20-21**

Two-day program to include Mike McCurry, Cokie Roberts, Frank Sesno, Susan Page, Michael Barone, Walter Mears, Ann Compton, Steve Roberts, Gwen Ifill, Tom Oliphant, Geneva Overholser, John Cochran, Bob Fuss, Hal Bruno, Bob Franken, AOL & Gallup Poll

EVENT: **Commission on Presidential Debates and The George Washington University** will host a two-day symposium reviewing 1996 and beginning preparations for the presidential debates in the year 2000. The forum, co-sponsored by GW's Graduate School of Political Management and the GW School of Media and Public Affairs, will bring together members of the Commission on Presidential Debates, leading journalists, representatives of new media (AOL), campaign strategists, pollsters and student activists to examine coverage of presidential candidates, debate formats, voter education and various perspectives held by candidates, the public and the media.

WHEN: Monday-Tuesday, October 20-21, 1997
See attached schedule for individual program details.

WHERE: The George Washington University
Marvin Center Theatre, 1st Floor
800 21st Street, NW
Washington, DC

(Foggy Bottom/GWU Metro, blue and orange lines.)

2:30-4:30 p.m. Welcome/Opening Session

Welcoming remarks from Commission on Presidential Debates co-chairs **Paul G. Kirk Jr. and Frank J. Fahrenkopf Jr.** and GW President **Stephen Joel Trachtenberg**

Reversing the Trend in the Youth Vote: 18% Turnout in '96. Can the Debates Generate Youth Interest?

Moderator: **Cokie Roberts**, special correspondent, ABC News

Panelists: **Kathleen deLaski**, director of news programming, America Online; **Dr. Diana Carlin**, University of Kansas, national coordinator of DebateWatch '96; **Geoff Garin**, Peter Hart Research Associates; **Stephen Joel Trachtenberg**, GW president; **Garrett Peel**, GW senior and coordinator for youth services and events at 1996 Republican National Convention; and **Douglas Miner**, GW senior, former president of GW College Democrats and organizer, GW's voter registration drive

4:30-5:30 p.m. Reception for students and Commission on Presidential Debates

(GW University Club, 3rd Floor, Marvin Center)

7:30-9 p.m. Sound Bites and Spot News vs. In-Depth, Continuing Coverage: The Role of Journalists in Covering a Presidential Campaign

Moderator: **Steve Roberts**, GW Shapiro Professor of Media and Public Affairs

Panelists: **Susan Page**, White House bureau chief, *USA Today*; **Bob Fuss**, Mutual/NBC Radio correspondent; **Walter Mears**, vice president and columnist, Associated Press; **John Cochran**, congressional correspondent, ABC News; **Bob Franken**, congressional correspondent, CNN; and **Christopher Arterton**, dean, GW's Graduate School of Political Management

Tuesday, October 21

10-11:30 a.m. Morning Session

Is the Public Well-informed About Presidential Candidates by Advertisements, Conventions, Free Air Time, News Coverage and Commentary and Debates?

Moderator: **Michael Barone**, senior staff editor, *Reader's Digest*

Panelists: **John Siegenthaler**, founder, First Amendment Center; **Frank Sesno**, senior vice president and Washington bureau chief, CNN; **Geneva Overholser**, ombudsman, *The Washington Post* and former editor, *Des Moines Register*; and **Frank Newport**, editor-in-chief, The Gallup Poll

12-1:15 p.m. Working Lunch

Overview of Legal Considerations Affecting the Candidate Selection Process

Keynote Speaker: **Lewis K. Loss, Esq.**, partner, Ross, Dickson & Masback, L.L.P. and general counsel to the Commission on Presidential Debates

1:30-3 p.m. Afternoon Session (I)
The Role of Debates in the General Election

A debate between **Richard Neustadt**, Harvard University professor and chair of the Commission on Presidential Debates Advisory Committee on Candidate Selection, and **Ross Clayton Mulford, Esq.**, partner, Hughes & Luce, L.L.P. and outside general counsel to Perot '92 and Perot '96. Moderator: **Gwen Ifill**, network correspondent, NBC News

3-4:30 p.m. Afternoon Session (II)
Direct Candidate Exchange: How to Improve Debate Format

Moderator: **Tom Oliphant**, columnist, *The Boston Globe* *Panelists:* **Ann Compton**, ABC News and panelist for 1988, 1992 debates; **Hal Bruno**, ABC News, panelist for 1976 vice presidential debate and moderator of 1992 vice presidential debate; **Michael D. McCurry**, assistant to the President and White House press secretary; and **John Buckley**, senior vice president, communications, Fannie Mae.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT: Karen Sibert
(202) 994-9023

**GW LAW PROFESSOR AND FORENSIC SCIENTIST JAMES STARRS FILES
SUIT FOR INFORMATION ON J. EDGAR HOOVER'S DEATH**

D.C. Medical Examiner Refused Requests for Autopsy Reports

Washington -- On October 3, 1997, GW Professor of Law and Forensic Sciences James Starrs filed suit in D.C. Superior Court to compel the D.C. Medical Examiner's Office to verify the existence of and make available autopsy or related records on the remains of former FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover. The action was filed in response to Chief Medical Examiner Humphrey D. Germaniuk's refusal of Starrs' August 29th request to view and copy such records, if they do exist.

Starrs' inquiry into the death of J. Edgar Hoover is the subject of a program to be presented to the annual meeting of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences in February 1998. Since his death on May 2, 1972, there has been considerable speculation about whether Hoover died of natural causes as reflected in his death certificate or as a result of a homicide or suicide. Presenters at the AAFS annual meeting hope to put the various divergent reports to the test of scientific analysis and discussion.

Media reports on Hoover's death reveal that he died from hypertensive cardiovascular disease. Being 77 at the time of his death, it is not unreasonable to assume that he could have expired in this manner but his medical record did not support such an assumption. He was not in ill health and had 2,626 unused hours of sick leave with the Bureau when he died. No complete autopsy was conducted by the D.C. Medical Examiner.

Eleven months after Hoover's death, an article in the Harvard Crimson reported that the Hoover home had been burglarized twice prior to his demise. During the second burglary, a poison of the thiophosphate genre was placed on Hoover's personal toilet articles. Whether poisoning by this means might induce a heart attack is a matter to be addressed by the presenters.

Other suggestive circumstances near the time of his death present the possibility of his having committed suicide. A biography, "Citizen Hoover" written by Jay Nash, was a brutal assault on Hoover's career as FBI director. Authorities found the book on his nightstand when his body was discovered. Aside from events which may have caused him to be severely depressed, Hoover may have had physical torments. One of his many biographers, Curt Gentry, remarked that Hoover was alleged to have been taking injections of vitamins on a regular basis. Gentry leaves the impression that Hoover may have been taking amphetamines, an overdose of which could have been a contributing factor in his death.

Starrs' prayer for declaratory and injunctive relief is based on D.C. Code Subsection 11-209 (c), which allows for release of records held by the chief medical examiner to any person with a "legitimate interest" either because the medical examiner of the District of Columbia approves such disclosure or when such disclosure is required under an order of a court finding that the applicant has a legitimate interest in those records.

Said Germaniuk in his rejection letter to Starrs, "Just as in life people are entitled to their privacy, so its [sic] my belief that in death people are still entitled to their privacy."

A hearing is scheduled for January 2, 1998 before Judge Geoffrey M. Alprin.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT: ALEXA KIM
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**GALA FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE EVENTS INDUSTRY INAUGURATES
ENDOWMENT OF GW ACADEMIC CHAIR**

Washington -- Over 350 business, education, and special events professionals assembled at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. September 30 to honor Earl Hargrove Jr. and Louise Lynch for excellence in the event industry. This inaugural gala benefited The George Washington University Event Management Program and raised funds for the eventual endowment of an academic chair in this field.

Over \$57,000 was raised and over \$100,000 in in-kind contributions were received to benefit GW's pioneering Event Management Program. The sold-out benefit gala featured costumes from Holland and dozens of violinists. The international dance team, The Savoy's, entertained the capacity audience and demonstrated the maturity of the Washington, D.C. event management community.

"This is an historic moment," said Joe Goldblatt, CSEP, founding director of the Event Management Program at GW. "For the first time, the business community, the education community, and the leading special event professionals assembled to advance this profession." During the program, Gala Chair and GW Event Management Program graduate Martha Bindeman told the gathering, "Your generosity will have a lasting effect upon young people for many generations to come."

Honored at the gala were Earl Hargrove Jr., president of Hargrove Inc. and Louise Lynch, president of Courtesy Associates. Hargrove is the industry pioneer whose company has provided parade floats for every presidential inauguration since Harry Truman. Ms. Lynch's firm has provided meeting management and special events services both in the nation's capital and throughout the world for over half a century. Combined, both firms represent over 100 of years service to the special events industry.

Plans for next year's gala are well underway. For more information on the endowment of the academic chair in Event Management or the planning of the gala contact Goldblatt at (202) 994-0043.

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CONTACT: Karen Sibert
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**LOCATION COST ANALYSIS BY GW INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS
RESEARCHERS DISPELS NAFTA CONCERNS IN *INTERNATIONAL
EXECUTIVE* ARTICLE**

Professor Douglas M. Sanford Jr. Available for Commentary on Research Findings

Washington -- Despite Ross Perot's dire predictions about the North American Free Trade Agreement, American businesses have not been rushing across the border to take advantage of Mexico's low labor costs, according to an article which is to be published in the November/December issue of *International Executive*. The authors, Douglas M. Sanford Jr., assistant professor of international business at The George Washington University, and David Fink, a GW alumnus and executive with 18 years of international business experience, say radically cheaper location costs predicted by NAFTA opponents are myth rather than reality.

Sanford and Fink conducted a location analysis between sites in Mexico and the United States for a plant that manufactures machine-sewn goods, such as athletic bags and camera cases. Surprisingly, their findings indicate that low labor costs in Mexico cannot compensate for other higher production-related costs, including rent, utilities and managerial salaries. In addition, although Mexico's hourly labor rate is lower, more labor hours are required to match U.S. products in quality and quantity.

The research contradicts arguments used to oppose NAFTA and the proposed Fast Track trade initiatives on the assumption that the substantial difference in labor costs between Mexico and the U.S. drives companies to relocate in order to be competitive. With overall location costs similar to those of existing plants, U.S. companies are not likely to be driven south of the border. In fact, Sanford and Fink's data help explain why some U.S. firms that moved to Mexico have returned to the U.S. after failing to realize savings.

For further commentary Professor Sanford may be reached at 202/994-5216 or e-mail: dsanford@gwis2.circ.gwu.edu.

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CONTACT: Karen Sibert
(202) 994-9023

--MEDIA ADVISORY--

**GW FACULTY EXPERTS AVAILABLE FOR STOCK MARKET SELL-OFF
ANALYSIS AND COMMENTARY**

Washington -- After 10 years of steady increases, U.S. stock prices have tumbled, with the Dow Jones dropping more than 500 points. The sharp decline on Wall Street is taking place amid a wave of selling that began last summer in Asia, where a currency crisis has rippled across Thailand, Malaysia Indonesia, the Philippines, and most recently Hong Kong.

In a robust U.S. economy, why is the Dow dropping? Is the bull market that began in August 1982 over? What should investors do during this volatile time? How should U.S. businesses and investors respond to the currency crisis in Asia?

"This is a wonderful buying opportunity when the time comes -- but not this week," says GW Associate Professor of Finance Neil Cohen. He says the plunge of 500+ points in the Dow in a strong U.S. economy is "based on psychology and emotion, not on fact." He advises young people not to panic, acknowledging that the people "in the most trouble" are those who are retiring imminently. "Their pensions are worth much less; they should have been warned."

The following professors at The George Washington University School of Business and Public Management are available to address the market plunge and related issues:

Mark Klock, Ph.D., professor and chair, Department of Finance, is an expert in econometrics and forecasting. He teaches Business Financial Decision Making. Phone: 202/992-8342

Fred Amling, CFA, Ph.D., professor of finance, is an expert in investment analysis and portfolio management. A member of the Board of Directors of the Keystone International Fund as an outside director and is active in economic forecasting groups. Phone: 202/994-6670

Neil Cohen, CFA, associate professor of finance, is an expert in corporate financial management, investment/ portfolio management and personal financial advising. He teaches Financial Management in the school's MBA program. Phone: 202/994-7276

James V. Jordan, professor of finance, is an expert in financial markets and institutions. Formerly with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, he is the author of "Assessing Value at Risk for Equity Portfolios: Implementing Alternative Techniques," cited in Risk Magazine as an excellent "how-to" article and a good demonstration of advantages and disadvantages of different techniques for assessing risk. Phone: 202/994-8137

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